

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07855 031553Z
ACTION SS-25

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-----031716Z 055675 /50S

O R 031455Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8214
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 7855

EXDIS
BELGRADE FOR CSCE DEL
E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CSCE, UR
SUBJECT: DISSIDENT PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 1

REF: MOSCOW 7792 NOTAL

1. JOURNALISTS WHO ATTENDED THE PRESS CONFERENCE CALLED TO
ANNOUNCE THAT SHCHARANSKIY WAS TO BE CHARGED WITH TREASON
(REFTEL) TELL US THAT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS WERE
COVERED.

--THERE IS NO NEW WORD ON DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING
ALEKSANDR GINSBURG AND YURIY ORLOV.

--TWO RECENT ATTEMPTS BY THE KGB TO "SET UP" THE CIA
WERE ANNOUNCED.

2. IN ONE ATTEMPTED SET UP, AN ESTONIAN WAS APPROACHED
BY THE KGB IN TALLINN AND ASKED TO ESTABLISH "HUMAN RIGHTS"
GROUP WHICH WOULD MAKE CONTACT WITH CIA AT THE EMBASSY
TO ASSIST IN THE "HUMAN RIGHTS FIGHT."

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 07855 031553Z

3. THE OTHER CASE OCCURRED IN TBILISI. A MAN SPEAKING
VERY HEAVILY ACCENTED ENGLISH, USING THE NAME FAWCETT,

AND ASSERTING THAT HE WAS A CANADIAN CITIZEN LIVING
IN JAPAN APPROACHED REFUSENIK GREGORIY GOLDSHTAYN.
FAWCETT SAID THAT HE HAD COME TO TBILISI TO ESTABLISH
CONTACT WITH THE WIFE OF JAILED GEORGIAN DISSIDENT

ZVIAD GAMSAKHURDIA. GOLDSHTAYN AGREED TO ACCOMPANY FAWCETT TO SEE MRS. GAMSAKHURDIA AND SAID THAT HE WOULD BEHAPPY TO INTERPRET. AFTER AN HOUR OR SO OF DESULTORY CONVERSATION WITH MRS. GAMSAKHURDIA, FAWCETT SUDDENLY BEGAN TO SPEAK EXCELLENT RUSSIAN, SAID HE WAS FROM CIA, AND TRIED TO PERSUADE MRS. GAMSAKHURDIA TO GATHER INFORMATION. GOLDSHTAYN REPORTEDLY WENT STRAIGHT TO THE KGB WHERE HE RECOUNTED THE WHOLE STORY AND REQUESTED THEM TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT FAWCETT. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE DISSIDENTS AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THIS WAS A RATHER CRUDE KGB ATTEMPT PROBABLY DESIGNED TO OBTAIN EVIDENCE FOR EVENTUAL CHARGES AGAINST GAMSAKHURDIA.

4. AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE WERE REFUSENIKS (INCLUDING SLEPAK AND FAYN), HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITS (INCLUDING GRIGORENKO AND BOTH SAKHAROV), PENTACOSTALISTS AND BAPTISTS.
MATLOCK

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER MR. MACFARLANE, S/S-O.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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